

Amendments to the Specification:

Please replace the abstract with the following abstract:

A publication system effective and secure to the publication agency and the a user is provided for the publication agency, and a signature verifying function using the ~~disclosed~~ published signature log entries is provided for the user. The publication agency ~~discloses the~~ publishes a signature log entries entry received from the users on the Web, and acquires a time-stamp at the time of the publication, and transmits ~~them~~ the time-stamp together with ~~the~~ a publication notice back to the ~~users~~ user. The publication agency also has the signature log, and either discloses part of the log at regular intervals in ~~the~~ a newspaper or the like, or produces publication-purpose data based on ~~the basis of~~ the signature log entries entry received from each user, and ~~discloses~~ publishes the data in the newspaper. The publication agency, after the newspaper publication, transmits the signature log of the publication agency to the users user.